





FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.

The first Protestant Church within the present limits of Vermont was organized here December 3, 1762. The Settlers having arrived June 18, 1761. On this site was erected in 1763-5 the first meeting house in the New Hampshire Grants: a plain building of unpainted wood, fifty feet by forty, replaced in 1806 by the present church edifice.

Here preached Jedidiah Dewey, the first minister of the Church. Hither the settlers returned from the Capture of Ticonderoga, the Battle of Bennington, and the Surrender of Burgoyne to offer up their thanksgiving and here was brought the 700 prisoners captured on August 16, 1777.

Here met the convention consisting of one delegate from each town which on January 10, 1791 ratified the constitution of the United States by the signature of 105 out of 109 delegates, thereby preparing the way for the admission of Vermont into the Union, as the first state after the original thirteen.

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